

# 1000+ Lexiles and Reading Counts Points

This is a list of suggestions of books owned by the Elkhorn library. It's not every book in Reading Counts at 1000+ and most titles are appropriate for 5<sup>th</sup> grade and up but some are intended for mature readers. Last updated August 2015.

## Look for these in the **Juvenile Nonfiction**

- Spies of Mississippi: The true story of the spy agency that tried to destroy the civil rights movement by Rick Bowers (**J 323.1196 BOW**)
  - What's it all about? In the 1950s and 1960s, the Mississippi State Sovereignty Commission compiled secret files on more than 87,000 private citizens in the most extensive state spying program in U.S. history. Its mission: to save segregation.
  - Genre: Nonfiction (history)
  - Lexile: 1290; Points: 8
- Freedom walkers by Russell Freedman (**J 323.1196 FRE**)
  - What's it all about? The Montgomery, Alabama bus boycott including the stories of Rosa Parks and Claudette Colvin.
  - Genre: Nonfiction (history)
  - Lexile: 1110; Points: 7
- Park Scientists: Gila Bears, geysers and grizzly bears in America's own backyard by Mary Kay Carson (**J 333.78 CAR**)
  - What's it all about? In this book from the Scientists in the Field series, readers can learn about the flora and fauna of three of America's national parks and what scientists are doing to understand and protect these fragile plants and animals.
  - Genre: Nonfiction (Science/Animals)
  - Lexile: 1040; Points: 6
- Once A Wolf: How Wildlife Biologists Fought To Bring Back the Gray Wolf by Stephen Swinburne (**J 333.95 SWI**)
  - What's it all about? The title says it all. Part of the award-winning Scientists in the Field series.
  - Genre: Nonfiction
  - Lexile: 1050; Points: 5
- Wildlife Detectives: How Forensic Scientists Fight Crimes Against Nature by Donna Jackson (**J 363.28 JAC**)
  - What's it all about? Detectives fight crime – but so do scientists! Describes how the wildlife detectives at the National Fish and Wildlife Forensics Laboratory in Ashland, Oregon, analyze clues to catch and convict people responsible for crimes against animals.
  - Genre: Nonfiction
  - Lexile: 1120; Points: 5
- Corpses, Coffins and Crypts by Penny Colman (**J 393.09 COL**)
  - What's it all about? Burial customs throughout history. Creepy but fascinating.
  - Genre: Nonfiction (history)
  - Lexile: 1190; Points: 9
- Story Of King Arthur And His Knights by Howard Pyle (**J 398.2 PYL**)
  - What's it all about? This edition of King Arthur's story is for strong readers who will enjoy the elaborate language and classic tales.
  - Genre: Myths and legends
  - Lexile: 1430; Points: 34

- Rootabaga stories by Carl Sandburg (**J 398.2 SAN**)
  - What's it all about? A newly-illustrated edition of Sandburg's fanciful, humorous tales peopled with such characters as the Potato Face Blind Man, the Blue Wind Boy, and many others. Fans of the Phantom Tollbooth and other books with a mixture of fine language and nonsense will enjoy these stories.
  - Genre: Folk tales
  - Lexile: 1130; Points: 8
- A Practical Guide to Dragon Magic by Susan Morris (Sindri Suncatcher) (**J 398.2454 MOR**)
  - What's it all about? In this fascinating book, learn all about relationships between dragons and dragon masters.
  - Genre: Fantasy
  - Lexile: 1180; Points: 5
- A Practical Guide to Dragons by Lisa Trumbauer (Sindri Suncatcher) (**J 398.2454 TRU**)
  - What's it all about? In this fun and interesting book, learn all you need to know about dragons! From wyrmlings to mature dragons, this book covers all types of dragons throughout their development.
  - Genre: Fantasy
  - Lexile: 1020; Points: 5
- Light beyond the forest by Rosemary Sutcliff (**J 398.26 SUT**)
  - What's it all about? A retelling of the adventures of King Arthur's knights, Sir Lancelot, Sir Galahad, Sir Bors, and Sir Percival, as they search for the Holy Grail.
  - Genre: Legends and mythology
  - Lexile: 1180; Points: 11
- 13 Planets: The latest view of the solar system by David Aguilar (**J 523.2 AGU**)
  - What's it all about? An updated overview of the solar system with cool pictures!
  - Genre: Nonfiction (Astronomy)
  - Lexile: 1090; Points: 4
- Diving to a deep-sea volcano by Kenneth Mallory (**J 551.23 MAL**)
  - What's it all about? Scientists studying hydrothermal vents.
  - Genre: Nonfiction (Science)
  - Lexile: 1250; Points: 5
- Tracking Trash: Flotsam, Jetsam, And The Science Of Ocean Motion by Loree Griffin Burns (**J 551.46 BUR**)
  - What's it all about? Describes the work of a man who tracks trash as it travels great distances by way of ocean currents. What happens when thousands of rubber ducks get lost in the ocean?
  - Genre: Nonfiction
  - Lexile: 1200; Points: 5
- Paleo Sharks: Survival Of The Strangest by Timothy J. Bradley (**J 567.3 BRA**)
  - What's it all about? Prehistoric sharks!
  - Genre: Nonfiction
  - Lexile: 1090; Points: 4
- Paleo Bugs: Survival of the creepiest by Timothy J. Bradley (**J 565.7 BRA**)
  - What's it all about? Prehistoric bugs!
  - Genre: Nonfiction
  - Lexile: 1160; Points: 4

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- **Bizarre dinosaurs by Christopher Sloan (J 567.9 SLO)**
  - What's it all about? You know all about the T.Rex, the stegosaurus, the pterodactyl. But what about the dracorex or the carnotaurus?
  - Genre: Nonfiction (Science, Dinosaurs)
  - Lexile: 1020; Points: 2
- **Digging for bird-dinosaurs by Nic Bishop (J 567.909 BIS)**
  - What's it all about? A scientific expedition to Madagascar to search for fossil birds.
  - Genre: Nonfiction (Paleontology)
  - Lexile: 1000; Points: 4
- **Reign Of The Sea Dragons by Sneed B. Collard (J 567.937 COL)**
  - What's it all about? Prehistoric sea monsters!
  - Genre: Nonfiction
  - Lexile: 1100; Points: 6
- **Plant hunters by Anita Silvey (J 580.75 SIL)**
  - What's it all about? Stories of men and women who fell off cliffs, were nearly eaten by jaguars, attacked by hostile locals, and more...in pursuit of plants!
  - Genre: Nonfiction
  - Lexile: 1190; Points: 6
- **Science Warriors: The Battle Against Invasive Species by Sneed B. Collard (J 590.62 COL)**
  - What's it all about? Talks about how scientists are fighting against invasive species in three different areas.
  - Genre: Nonfiction
  - Lexile: 1110; Points: 5
- **Citizen Scientists: Be a part of scientific discovery from your own backyard by Loree Burns (J 590.72 BUR)**
  - What's it all about? National and international scientific projects you can join on your own or as a class. Includes information and history on scientific tracking projects.
  - Genre: Nonfiction (science)
  - Lexile: 1050; Points: 5
- **Exploding ants by Joanne Settel (J 591.5 SET)**
  - What's it all about? How animals adapt in surprising ways, from exploding to changing color.
  - Genre: Nonfiction (science)
  - Lexile: 1020; Points: 4
- **Woods Scientist by Stephen R. Swinburne (J 591.73 SWI)**
  - What's it all about? A devoted nature lover and animal tracker, Sue Morse shares her knowledge and love of some of the creatures that inhabit America's woodlands.
  - Genre: Nonfiction
  - Lexile: 1110; Points: 4
- **Bat Scientists by Mary Carson (J 599.4 CAR)**
  - What's it all about? Real scientists in the real world, fighting to save endangered bats and educate people about them. This is part of the Scientists in the Field series, nonfiction books about real scientists, their lives and work.
  - Genre: Nonfiction (science, animals)
  - Lexile: 1010; Points: 6

- **Silk And Venom: Searching For A Dangerous Spider** by Kathryn Lasky (**J 595.44 LAS**)
  - What's it all about? Follows the firsthand search of arachnologist Greta Binford for the elusive *Loxosceles*, the deadly recluse spider.
  - Genre: Nonfiction
  - Lexile: 1050; Points: 4
- **Bugged: How insects changed history** by Sarah Albee (**J 595.7 ALB**)
  - What's it all about? Did you know that the tiniest things, like bugs, can have the biggest effects on history? Learn all about the funny, gross, and fascinating ways that insects affect history.
  - Genre: Nonfiction (history)
  - Lexile: 1130; Points: 10
- **Bug scientists** by Donna Jackson (**J 595.7 JAC**)
  - What's it all about? Meet some real-life entomologists and discover why they love their work, why it's important, and how they become bug scientists.
  - Genre: Nonfiction (science)
  - Lexile: 1200; Points: 4
- **Neighborhood Sharks** by Katherine Roy (**J 597.3 ROY**)
  - What's it all about? What is it like to live with Great Whites? Find out all about their habits, life cycle, and more. An award-winning look at some fascinating and misunderstood animals.
  - Genre: Nonfiction (Science/Animals)
  - Lexile: 1330; Points: 3
- **Swimming With Hammerhead Sharks** by Kenneth Mallory (**J 597.34 MAL**)
  - What's it all about? This is another title in the Scientists in the Field series, this time featuring a scientist who studies – and swims with – sharks.
  - Genre: Nonfiction
  - Lexile: 1270; Points: 4
- **Project Seahorse** by Pamela S. Turner (**J 597.6798 TUR**)
  - What's it all about? Scientists studying seahorses, some of the rarest and most fragile life forms in the sea.
  - Genre: Nonfiction (Science/Animals)
  - Lexile: 1010; Points: 4
- **Sea turtle scientist** by Stephen Swinburne (**J 597.928 SWI**)
  - What's it all about? Dr. Kimberly Stewart of the Wider Caribbean Sea Turtle Network works to protect endangered leatherback sea turtles on the island of St. Kitts. This book from the Scientists in the Field series describes her work and includes many vivid photographs.
  - Genre: Nonfiction (Science/Animals)
  - Lexile: 1190; Points: 6
- **Moonbird: A year on the wind with the great survivor B95** by Phillip Hoose (**J 598.33 HOO**)
  - What's it all about? Follows the life of a rufa red knot bird who has flown halfway to the moon and back again in its migrations.
  - Genre: Nonfiction
  - Lexile: 1150; Points: 9
- **Capyboppy** by Bill Peet (**J 599.359 PEE**)
  - What's it all about? Life with a capybara for a pet.
  - Genre: Nonfiction (animals)
  - Lexile: 1030; Points: 3

- **Whale Scientists by Fran Hodgkins (J 599.5 HOD)**
  - What's it all about? Scientists working to solve the mystery of whale strandings.
  - Genre: nonfiction
  - Lexile: 1140; Points: 6
- **Whaling Season: A Year In The Life Of An Arctic Whale Scientist by Peter Lourie (J 599.5276 LOU)**
  - What's it all about? The life of an Arctic whale scientist – with pictures. Do you know how big a whale's eyeball is? When you finish this book, you will!
  - Genre: Nonfiction
  - Lexile: 1150; Points: 5
- **Manatee scientists by Peter Lourie (J 599.55 LOU)**
  - What's it all about? Looks at scientists in different parts of the world who are studied manatees from Florida to the Amazon to Africa.
  - Genre: Nonfiction
  - Lexile: 1210; Points: 6
- **Elephant Scientist by Caitlin O'Connell (J 599.67 OCO)**
  - What's it all about? Meet the scientists studying elephants in the Namibian desert.
  - Genre: Nonfiction (science)
  - Lexile: 1260; Points: 17
- **Chasing Cheetahs by Sy Montgomery (J 599.759 MON)**
  - What's it all about? In this book from the Scientists in the Field series, beautiful photographs and engaging text tell the story of Laurie Marker and her team at the Cheetah Conservation Fund's African headquarters and their efforts to save cheetahs.
  - Genre: Nonfiction (Science/Animals)
  - Lexile: 1000; Points: 6
- **Salmon Bears by Ian McAllister (J 599.784 MCA)**
  - What's it all about? Did you know there is a rainforest in the US? The Great Bear Rainforest on the northwest coast is home to some amazing creatures, including many different bears. This is an awesome book, especially if you are a fan of bears and are interested in environmental issues.
  - Genre: Nonfiction
  - Lexile: 1130; Points: 6
- **Polar Bear scientists by Peter Lourie (J 599.786 LOU)**
  - What's it all about? This is the story of veteran polar bear biologist, and the man in charge of Alaskan polar bear research for the past thirty years, Dr. Steven Amstrup.
  - Genre: Nonfiction
  - Lexile: 1260; Points: 7
- **Bodies from the ice by James Deem (J 599.9 DEE)**
  - What's it all about? Just like the previous book, only the bodies are frozen in glaciers instead of mummified in hardened lava.
  - Genre: Nonfiction (Archaeology, History)
  - Lexile: 1180; Points: 5
- **Biomimicry: Inventions inspired by nature by Dora Lee (J 608 LEE)**
  - What's it all about? Learn about the many inventions that are inspired by nature, from trains based on bird beaks to swimsuits designed to mimic shark skin.
  - Genre: Nonfiction (Science, Inventions)

- Lexile: 1110; Points: 5
- I feel better with a frog in my throat by Carlyn Beccia (**J 615.8 BEC**)
  - What's it all about? Don't read this when you're sick! People have come up with some strange cures throughout history and here's a sample of the weirdest, grossest, and scariest medicine ever.
  - Genre: Nonfiction (history)
  - Lexile: 1110; Points: 3
- Castle by David Macaulay (**J 623.19 MACA**)
  - What's it all about? The building of a medieval castle.
  - Genre: Nonfiction (architecture, history)
  - Lexile: 1180; Points: 3
- Underground by David Macaulay (**J 624.19 MAC**)
  - What's it all about? Text and drawings describe the subways, sewers, building foundations, telephone and power systems, columns, cables, pipes, tunnels, and other underground elements of a large modern city.
  - Genre: Nonfiction (architecture)
  - Lexile: 1230; Points: 4
- Team Moon by Catherine Thimmesh (**J 629.454 THI**)
  - What's it all about? Culled from direct quotes from the people behind the scenes, NASA transcripts, national archives and NASA photos, the whole story of Apollo 11 and the first moon landing emerges.
  - Genre: Nonfiction
  - Lexile: 1060; Points: 6
- Our farm by Michael J. Rosen (**J 630 ROS**)
  - What's it all about? A journal of one year on the Bennett farm in central Ohio. Shows how one family, with the help of relatives and friends, creates a life and livelihood on a 150-acre farm.
  - Genre: Nonfiction
  - Lexile: 1010; Points: 9
- Prairie Builders by Sneed B. Collard (**J 635.9517 COL**)
  - What's it all about? Join the scientists working in the Neal Smith National Wildlife Refuge as they work to rebuild the tallgrass prairie that once covered much of the Midwest and restore the native plants and animals to the region.
  - Genre: Nonfiction
  - Lexile: 1090; Points: 5
- Rescuing Rover: Saving America's Dogs by Raymond Bial (**J 636.0832 BIA**)
  - What's it all about? Looks at the problem of dog overpopulation in America, discusses the role of puppy mills, pet stores, and independent breeders, and includes a profile of a local animal shelter. Not as boring as it sounds, really!
  - Genre: Nonfiction
  - Lexile: 1230; Points: 5
- Pyramid by David Macaulay (**J 690.68 MAC**)
  - What's it all about? The construction of an ancient Egyptian pyramid, from start to finish.
  - Genre: Nonfiction (architecture)
  - Lexile: 1110; Points: 3
- City by David Macaulay (**J 711.4 MACA**)
  - What's it all about? The planning and construction of a Roman city from the ground up.

- Genre: Nonfiction (architecture, history)
- Lexile: 1100; Points: 3
  
- **Building Big by David Macaulay (J 720 MACA)**
  - What's it all about? A companion to the PBS series about amazing man-made structures.
  - Genre: Nonfiction (architecture)
  - Lexile: 1260; Points: 8
- **Cathedral by David Macaulay (J 726.6 MACA)**
  - What's it all about? The construction of a medieval cathedral.
  - Genre: Nonfiction (architecture, history)
  - Lexile: 1120; Points: 3
- **Case Closed? Nine mysteries unlocked by modern science by Susan Hughes (J 902 HUG)**
  - What's it all about? From mysterious plane crashes to the real fate of the Princess Anastasia, modern science unlocks mysteries no one ever thought would be solved.
  - Genre: Nonfiction (science, history)
  - Lexile: 1000; Points: 6
- **Balls! By Michael Rosen (J 796.3 ROS)**
  - What's it all about? All about balls – how they're made, used, their history and the sports we play with them.
  - Genre: Nonfiction (sports)
  - Lexile: 1100; Points: 6
- **Fourth down and inches: Concussions and football's make-or-break moment by Carla McClafferty (J 796.332 MCC)**
  - What's it all about? The history of football and the latest brain research into concussions and injuries in the sport.
  - Genre: Nonfiction (sports)
  - Lexile: 1070; Points: 8
- **Everything Soccer by Blake Hoena (J 796.334 HOE)**
  - What's it all about? Soccer is a sport that is played around the world. Read a detailed account of its history, rules, and culture in this book from the National Geographic Kids Everything series.
  - Genre: Nonfiction (sports)
  - Lexile: 1040; Points: 5
- **Sea Queens: Women Pirates Around The World by Jane Yolen (J 910.45 YOL)**
  - What's it all about? The title kind of says it all...
  - Genre: Nonfiction (history)
  - Lexile: 1040; Points: 6
- **Into The Unknown: How Great Explorers Found Their Way By Land, Sea, And Air by Stewart Ross (J 910.9 ROS)**
  - What's it all about? Discover how the greatest explorers in history plunged into the unknown and boldly pieced together the picture of the world we have today. With the help of masterful cross sections, dramatic storytelling, and sidebars that highlight key concepts, places, and technology, readers explore fourteen historic journeys.
  - Genre: Nonfiction (history, exploration)
  - Lexile: 1120; Points: 7
- **Titanic Sinks! By Barry Denenberg (J 910.916 DEN)**

- What's it all about? Follow the story of the "Titanic" through a series of magazine articles. From the construction of the ship to testimonials of some of the survivors, this book provides many different viewpoints.
- Genre: Nonfiction (history)
- Lexile: 1200; Points: 5
- **Titanic: Voices From The Disaster by Deborah Hopkinson (J 910.916 HOP)**
  - What's it all about? A 100th anniversary tribute to the Titanic tragedy based on the words and stories of its witnesses and survivors, in a dramatic account that is complemented by archival photographs.
  - Genre: Nonfiction (history)
  - Lexile: 1040; Points: 10
- **Iceberg Right Ahead!: The Tragedy Of The Titanic by Stephanie McPherson (J 910.916 MCP)**
  - What's it all about? Describes the ill-fated maiden voyage of the Titanic, a luxury liner claimed to be "unsinkable" that was destroyed after colliding with an iceberg, killing over one thousand passengers onboard.
  - Genre: Nonfiction (history, disasters)
  - Lexile: 1070; Points: 9
- **Revenge Of The Whale: The True Story Of The Whaleship Essex by Nathaniel Philbrick (J 910.9164 PHI)**
  - What's it all about? Recounts the 1820 sinking of the whaleship "Essex" by an enraged sperm whale and how the crew of young men survived against impossible odds. Based on the author's adult book "In the Heart of the Sea."
  - Genre: Nonfiction (history)
  - Lexile: 1170; Points: 13
- **How They Choked: Failures, Flops, And Flaws Of The Awfully Famous by Georgia Bragg (J 920 BRA)**
  - What's it all about? Even famous people make mistakes sometimes. Read all about their failures, mistakes, and really, really bad errors in this funny and information history.
  - Genre: Nonfiction (history)
  - Lexile: 1010; Points: 10
- **Anne Frank: A hidden life by Mirjam Pressler (J 921 FRANK)**
  - What's it all about? Read the story behind the diary, from Anne Frank's childhood to her final days.
  - Genre: Biography
  - Lexile: 1120; Points: 12
- **Bodies from the ash by James Deem (J 937.7 DEE)**
  - What's it all about? In August of AD 79, the cities of Pompeii and Herculaneum were destroyed by the eruption of Mount Vesuvius. Learn what the excavation of these cities tells us about how their citizens lived and died and see amazing photographs of their unearthed remains (a fancy way of saying preserved corpses).
  - Genre: Nonfiction (Archeaology, History)
  - Lexile: 1120; Points: 5
- **Everything Castles by Crispin Boyer (J 940.1 BOY)**
  - What's it all about? Everything you could ever want to know about castles with gorgeous full-color pictures from National Geographic.
  - Genre: Nonfiction (history)
  - Lexile: 1150; Points: 5
- **True Stories of the Second World War by Paul Dowswell (J 940.53 DOW)**
  - What's it all about? Again, pretty much the title.
  - Genre: Nonfiction (history)



- Lexile: 1110; Points: 11
- True Stories Of D-Day by Henry Brook (**J 940.54 BRO**)
  - What's it all about? Pretty much what the title says.
  - Genre: Nonfiction (history)
  - Lexile: 1120; Points: 10
- Ghosts in the fog by Samantha Seiple (**J 940.5428 SEI**)
  - What's it all about? The story of the Japanese invasion of Alaska during World War II. This is a fascinating story, classified until recently, and includes tales of survival and the fate of the native peoples of the Alaskan islands during and after the invasion.
  - Genre: Nonfiction (history)
  - Lexile: 1110; Points: 10
- Hitler Youth: Growing Up in Hitler's Shadow by Susan Campbell Bartoletti (**J 943.086 BAR**)
  - What's it all about? The story of a generation of German young people who devoted all their energy to the Hitler Youth and the propaganda that brought Hitler his power, and the youths that resisted the Nazi movement. The author explores how Hitler gained the loyalty, trust, and passion of so many of Germany's young people.
  - Genre: Nonfiction (history)
  - Lexile: 1050; Points: 10
- Commodore Perry in the Land of the Shogun by Rhoda Blumberg (**J 952.025 BLU**)
  - What's it all about? Commodore Perry's role in opening Japan's closed society to world trade in the 1850's. Newbery Award. More interesting than it sounds.
  - Genre: Nonfiction (history)
  - Lexile: 1070; Points: 6
- Blizzard of Glass: The Halifax Explosion of 1917 by Sally Walker (**J 971.62 WAL**)
  - What's it all about? A breathtaking, moment-by-moment account of the most deadly explosion until the atom bomb.
  - Genre: Nonfiction (History)
  - Lexile: 1100; Points: 8
- Great fire by Jim Murphy (**J 977.311 MUR**)
  - What's it all about? The story of the great fire that destroyed Chicago.
  - Genre: Nonfiction (History)
  - Lexile: 1130; Points: 7
- Perilous Journey Of The Donner Party by Marian Calabro (**J 979.403 CAL**)
  - What's it all about? Uses materials from letters and diaries written by survivors of the Donner Party to relate the experiences of that ill-fated group.
  - Genre: Nonfiction (historical disasters)
  - Lexile: 1020; Points: 9
- Groundbreaking, Chance-Taking Life Of George Washington Carver by Cheryl Harness (**JB CARVER**)
  - What's it all about? Not only a biography of Carver, but also a look at science and invention in America.
  - Genre: Nonfiction (biography, history)
  - Lexile: 1090; Points: 7
- Girl from Yamhill by Beverly Cleary (**JB Cleary**)
  - What's it all about? The autobiography of Beverly Cleary, beloved author of the Ramona, Beezus, and Henry Huggins books.
  - Genre: Nonfiction (Autobiography)
  - Lexile: 1040; Points: 15

- Claudette Colvin: Twice toward justice by Philip Hoose (**JB Colvin**)
  - What's it all about? You know the story of Rosa Parks, but do you know about the teen girl who refused to give up her seat before Rosa Parks became famous? This is her story.
  - Genre: Biography
  - Lexile: 1000; Points: 10
- Life in the ocean by Claire Nivola (**JB EARLE**)
  - What's it all about? A beautifully illustrated story of Sylvia Earle's growing passion for the wonders of the sea and how her ocean exploration and advocacy have made her known around the world.
  - Genre: Nonfiction (biography)
  - Lexile: 1170; Points: 3
- Diary of a young girl by Anne Frank (**JB FRANK**)
  - What's it all about? Anne Frank kept a diary for two years while she and her family hid from the Nazis. Her diary tells about the everyday details of life in hiding as well as her own hopes and fears.
  - Genre: Autobiography
  - Lexile: 1080; Points: 21
- Lincoln: A Photobiography by Russell Freedman (**JB LINCOLN**)
  - What's it all about? An award-winning biography of Abraham Lincoln, telling his story in photographs and text.
  - Genre: Nonfiction (biography)
  - Lexile: 1110; Points: 8
- Guts by Gary Paulsen (**JB PAULSEN**)
  - What's it all about? True stories from Gary Paulsen's life that inspired Hatchet and other survival and wilderness adventure books he wrote.
  - Genre: Nonfiction (biography)
  - Lexile: 1230; Points: 8
- My life in dog years by Gary Paulsen (**JB PAULSEN**)
  - What's it all about? The author describes some of the dogs that have had special places in his life, including his first dog, Snowball, in the Philippines; Dirk, who protected him from bullies; and Cookie, who saved his life.
  - Genre: Nonfiction
  - Lexile: 1150; Points: 7
- Bill Peet, an autobiography by Bill Peet (**JB PEET**)
  - What's it all about? Author, illustrator, and Disney artist Bill Peet tells the story of his life. Sometimes sad, sometimes funny, always interesting.
  - Genre: Autobiography
  - Lexile: 1190; Points: 6
- Mr. Sam: How Sam Walton built Wal-Mart and became America's richest man (**JB WALTON**)
  - What's it all about? The title pretty much covers it.
  - Genre: Nonfiction (Biography)
  - Lexile: 1200; Points: 10

## Look for these in the **Juvenile Fiction**

- **Wolves Of Willoughby Chase** by Joan Aiken (**J AIK**)
  - What's it all about? Before Lemony Snicket wrote his tales of luckless orphans, Joan Aiken wrote this classic and creepy tale of an evil governess and two orphaned girls determined to escape her clutches.
  - Genre: Fiction
  - Lexile: 1020; Points: 11
- **Eight Cousins** by Louisa May Alcott (**J ALC**)
  - What's it all about? Rose, a sheltered and timid girl who's always been sickly, goes to live with her aunts and meets her eight boisterous boy cousins and her uncle, who has radical ideas about her health and education.
  - Genre: Historical Fiction
  - Lexile: 1260; Points: 17
- **Little Women** by Louisa May Alcott (**J ALC**)
  - What's it all about? The classic story of four sisters who, with the help of their family and friends live through good times and bad and grow up to become strong women.
  - Genre: Historical fiction
  - Lexile: 1300; Points: 39
- **Wonderful Wizard Of Oz** by L. Frank Baum (**J BAU**)
  - What's it all about? Most people know the famous MGM movie, but if you've never read the book you're missing out! Full of weird and wonderful creatures and Baum's quirky sense of humor.
  - Genre: Fantasy
  - Lexile: 1000; Points: 11
- **Let's pretend this never happened** by Jim Benton (**J BEN**)
  - What's it all about? In her diary, middle school student Jamie Kelly describes her life at home and at school, including her attempts to triumph over her nemesis, the beautiful and popular Angeline. First in the Dear Dumb Diary series.
  - Genre: Realistic fiction, Funny stories
  - Lexile: 1120; Points: 14
- **Boggart** by Susan Cooper (**J COO**)
  - What's it all about? After visiting the castle in Scotland which her family has inherited and returning home to Canada, twelve-year-old Emily finds that she has accidentally brought back with her a boggart, an invisible and mischievous spirit with a fondness for practical jokes. Mostly funny, but sad and scary in parts too.
  - Genre: Fantasy
  - Lexile: 1030; Points: 12
- **Love that dog** by Sharon Creech (**J CRE**)
  - What's it all about? Poetry. Hating it. Loving it.
  - Genre: Fiction, Poetry
  - Lexile: 1010; Points: 4
- **Elijah of Buxton** by Christopher Paul Curtis (**J CUR**)
  - What's it all about? Eleven-year-old Elijah Freeman tells the humorous yet touching story of the free slaves who established a settlement in Canada in 1860.
  - Genre: Historical Fiction
  - Lexile: 1070; Points: 17

- **Catherine, Called Birdy by Karen Cushman (J CUS)**
  - What's it all about? Catherine's father has plans to marry her off to a wealthy suitor, but thirteen-year-old Catherine has other ideas. Her lively diary entries talk about her life in medieval England. A Newbery Honor book.
  - Genre: Historical Fiction
  - Lexile: 1170; Points: 13
- **Midwife's apprentice by Karen Cushman (J CUS)**
  - What's it all about? In medieval England, a nameless, homeless girl is taken in by a sharp-tempered midwife, and in spite of obstacles and hardship, eventually gains the three things she most wants: a full belly, a contented heart, and a place in this world.
  - Genre: Historical fiction
  - Lexile: 1240; Points: 7
- **When Will This Cruel War Be Over?: The Civil War Diary Of Emma Simpson by Barry Denenberg (J DEA)**
  - What's it all about? The diary of a fictional fourteen-year-old girl living in Virginia, in which she describes the hardships endured by her family and friends during one year of the Civil War.
  - Genre: Historical fiction
  - Lexile: 1140; Points: 5
- **Journal of James Edmond Pease by Jim Murphy (J DEA)**
  - What's it all about? James Edmond, a sixteen-year-old orphan, keeps a journal of his experiences and those of "G" Company which he joined as a volunteer in the Union Army during the Civil War.
  - Genre: Historical fiction
  - Lexile: 1070; Points: 10
- **Journal of Joshua Loper, a black cowboy by Walter Dean Myers (J DEA)**
  - What's it all about? In 1871 Joshua Loper, a sixteen-year-old black cowboy, records in his journal his experiences while making his first cattle drive under an unsympathetic trail boss.
  - Genre: Historical fiction
  - Lexile: 1000; Points: 8
- **Journal Of Sean Sullivan by William Durbin (J DEA)**
  - What's it all about? In 1867, fifteen-year-old Sean experiences both hardships and rewards when he joins his father in working on the building of the Transcontinental Railroad.
  - Genre: Historical fiction
  - Lexile: 1060; Points: 7
- **Twenty-One Balloons by William Pene du Bois (J DU)**
  - What's it all about? Relates the incredible adventures of Professor William Waterman Sherman who in 1883 sets off in a balloon across the Pacific, survives the volcanic eruption of Krakatoa, and is eventually picked up in the Atlantic.
  - Genre: Adventure
  - Lexile: 1070; Points: 9
- **Adam of the Road by Elizabeth Gray (J GRA)**
  - What's it all about? Adam loves life on the road as a medieval minstrel until his dog is stolen and he becomes separated from his father. An award-winning classic from the 1940s.
  - Genre: Historical fiction
  - Lexile: 1030; Points: 12

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- **Glitch in sleep by John Hulme (J HUL)**
  - What's it all about? When Becker Drane is recruited by The Seems, a parallel universe that runs everything in The World, he must fix a disastrous glitch in the Department of Sleep that threatens everyone's ability to ever fall asleep again. First in a series.
  - Genre: Fantasy
  - Lexile: 1060; Points: 14
- **Across Five Aprils by Irene Hunt (J HUN)**
  - What's it all about? Award-winning story of the Civil War. The men and older boys in Jethro Creighton's family have taken off to fight in the war, leaving Jethro the man of the house. Set in Illinois, includes some violence and sad parts.
  - Genre: Historical fiction
  - Lexile: 1100; Points: 15
- **Phantom Tollbooth by Norton Juster (J JUS)**
  - What's it all about? Milo, a boy who has everything but can't think of anything to do, goes on a marvelous journey to a mysterious land. Full of fun with words, numbers, and ideas.
  - Genre: Fantasy
  - Lexile: 1000; Points: 10
- **Ordinary princess by M. M. Kaye (J KAY)**
  - What's it all about? One of the first fractured fairy tales, a sweet story of a princess who doesn't fit in with her sisters but finds a fairy tale ending on her own.
  - Genre: Fantasy
  - Lexile: 1090; Points: 7
- **Babe by Dick King-Smith (J KIN)**
  - What's it all about? A funny story about a pig who wants to be more than just dinner. Raised by a sheepdog, he finds a clever way to fulfill his dreams.
  - Genre: Animal stories, Funny stories
  - Lexile: 1040; Points: 6
- **Jungle Book by Rudyard Kipling (J KIP)**
  - What's it all about? Classic tales of a young boy raised by wolves who must find his place in the jungle and in the village.
  - Genre: Classic, Fantasy
  - Lexile: 1140; Points: 28
- **Savvy by Ingrid Law (J LAW)**
  - What's it all about? Recounts the adventures of Mibs Beaumont, whose thirteenth birthday has revealed her "savvy"--a magical power unique to each member of her family--just as her father is injured in a terrible accident. First in a series.
  - Genre: Fantasy
  - Lexile: 1070; Points: 15
- **Ben and Me by Robert Lawson (J LAW)**
  - What's it all about? The life of Benjamin Franklin before and during the American Revolution as seen through the eyes of his friend, a mouse named Amos. Amos has his own adventures and his own view of history, often quite a bit different from Ben's.
  - Genre: Historical fantasy, Funny stories
  - Lexile: 1010; Points: 3

- Meet the Austins by Madeleine L'Engle (**J LEN**)
  - What's it all about? The life of the Austin family is changed by the arrival of self-centered young Maggy Hamilton, orphaned by the sudden death of her father. First in a series.
  - Genre: Fiction
  - Lexile: 1080; Points: 14
- Door in the hedge by Robin McKinley (**J MCK**)
  - What's it all about? Retellings of four fairy tales and classic stories.
  - Genre: Fantasy
  - Lexile: 1110; Points: 16
- Emily of New Moon by L. M. Montgomery (**J MON**)
  - What's it all about? Emily must learn to adjust to life with her aunts after her father's death. She makes new friends and enemies as she goes to school and meets her mother's estranged family.
  - Genre: Historical Fiction
  - Lexile: 1060; Points: 26
- War horse by Michael Morpurgo (**J MOR**)
  - What's it all about? Joey the horse recalls his experiences growing up on an English farm, his struggle for survival as a cavalry horse during World War I, and his reunion with his beloved master.
  - Genre: Historical fiction
  - Lexile: 1090; Points: 10
- Dog who wouldn't be by Farley Mowat (**J MOW**)
  - What's it all about? Meet a dog who climbs like a cat, firmly believes that he's human, and fights like nothing you've ever seen. Hilarious stories from the childhood of naturalist Farley Mowat.
  - Genre: Animal fiction
  - Lexile: 1280; Points: 16
- Rascal by Sterling North (**J NOR**)
  - What's it all about? The author recalls his carefree life in a small midwestern town at the close of World War I, and his adventures with his pet raccoon, Rascal.
  - Genre: Nonfiction (memoir)
  - Lexile: 1140; Points: 12
- Island of the blue dolphins by Scott O'Dell (**J ODE**)
  - What's it all about? Left alone on a beautiful but isolated island off the coast of California, a young Indian girl spends eighteen years, not only merely surviving through her enormous courage and self-reliance, but also finding a measure of happiness in her solitary life.
  - Genre: Historical fiction
  - Lexile: 1000; Points: 12
- Hatchet by Gary Paulsen (**J PAU**)
  - What's it all about? Brian's plane crashes in the wilderness and he's left to survive with only a hatchet. Classic wilderness survival adventure story. First in a series.
  - Genre: Adventure fiction
  - Lexile: 1020; Points: 10
- Mudshark by Gary Paulsen (**J PAU**)
  - What's it all about? Principal Wagner confidently deals with a faculty washroom crisis, a psychic parrot, and a terrorizing gerbil, but when sixty-five erasers go missing, he enlists the help of the school's best problem solver and locator of lost items, Lyle Williams, aka Mudshark.

- Genre: Mystery, Funny stories
- Lexile: 1080; Points: 5
- **Alida's Song by Gary Paulsen (J PAU)**
  - What's it all about? A fourteen-year-old boy escapes his neglectful and abusive parents for a wonderful summer on a farm where his grandmother cooks for two elderly brothers.
  - Genre: Realistic Fiction
  - Lexile: 1460; Points: 6
- **Larklight by Philip Reeve (J REE)**
  - What's it all about? In an alternate Victorian England, young Arthur and his sister Myrtle, residents of Larklight, a floating house in one of Her Majesty's outer space territories, uncover a spidery plot to destroy the solar system. First in a series.
  - Genre: Fantasy
  - Lexile: 1170; Points: 18
- **Best School Year Ever by Barbara Robinson (J ROB)**
  - What's it all about? The narrator is sure this is going to be the worst year ever. After all, she and every other kid in town has a Herdman in their class, and everyone knows the Herdmans are the worst kids in the history of the world.
  - Genre: Funny stories
  - Lexile: 1020; Points: 6
- **How to grow up and rule the world by Scott Seegert (J SEE)**
  - What's it all about? Vordak, a powerful supervillain, offers you, the humble reader, his amazing knowledge and experiences so that you too can grow up and become an evil overlord, mwa-ha-ha. First in a series.
  - Genre: Funny stories
  - Lexile: 1140; Points: 6
- **Black Beauty by Anna Sewell (J SEW)**
  - What's it all about? The original classic horse story. Black Beauty had an idyllic life until she was sold to a series of cruel masters. Highlighting the many abuses of horses and other animals at the time, this is also a riveting story of history and hard times with a bittersweet ending.
  - Genre: Historical Fiction
  - Lexile: 1010; Points: 14
- **Milo: Sticky Notes And Brain Freeze by Alan Silberberg (J SIL)**
  - What's it all about? In love with the girl he sneezed on the first day of school and best pals with Marshall, the "One Eyed Jack" of friends, seventh-grader Milo Cruikshank misses his mother whose death has changed everything at home.
  - Genre: Realistic fiction
  - Lexile: 1180; Points: 10
- **Bad Beginning by Lemony Snicket (J SNI)**
  - What's it all about? The precocious Baudelaire orphans are sent to live with evil Count Olaf. Will he succeed in his wicked plans to steal their fortune?
  - Genre: Funny stories
  - Lexile: 1010; Points: 7
- **Egypt Game by Zilpha Snyder (J SNY)**
  - What's it all about? 11-year-old April and her new friend Melanie invent a mysterious game, but the fun gets frightening when unexpected events begin to occur. Newbery award winner.
  - Genre: Slightly spooky fiction

- Lexile: 1010; Points: 12
- The Famous Stanley Kidnapping Case by Zilpha Snyder (**J SNY**)
  - Things finally seem to be calming down in the Stanley family – and then they take a trip to Italy! David is a little worried how his new stepsister Amanda will handle the trip, not to mention his eccentric younger brother and sisters, and he’s right to worry because the next thing he knows she gets them all kidnapped! Will they escape – or even survive?
  - Genre: Mystery/Adventure
  - Lexile: 1060; Points: 12
- Case of the Missing Marquess by Nancy Springer (**J SPR**)
  - What’s it all about? Sherlock Holmes younger sister investigates mysteries despite her brothers’ attempts to make her behave like a proper Victorian lady.
  - Genre: Mystery, Historical Fiction
  - Lexile: 1020; Points: 10
- Hobbit by J. R. R. Tolkien (**J TOL**)
  - What’s it all about? The classic fantasy quest of a hobbit and a group of dwarves in search of a dragon, treasure and adventure. Battles with goblins and wolves, encounters with elves, and more await!
  - Genre: Fantasy
  - Lexile: 1000; Points: 21
- 20,000 Leagues Under the Sea by Jules Verne (**J VER**)
  - What’s it all about? A classic sea adventure with monsters, submarines, explosions. The edition in the juvenile chapter books is abridged, the young adult version is complete.
  - Genre: Adventure, Classic
  - Lexile: 1030; Points: 23
- Around the world in 80 days by Jules Verne (**J VER**)
  - What’s it all about? A classic adventure story! A man bets his whole fortune that he can travel around the world in 80 days. He and his servant get into a series of hair-raising adventures but will they make it back in time?
  - Genre: Adventure
  - Lexile: 1070; Points: 15
- Sword in the stone by T. H. White (**J WHI**)
  - What’s it all about? This is the version of King Arthur that the Disney movie is based on, but there’s a lot more to the story. It’s the only King Arthur edition I’ll read – there are some sad parts, but overall it’s a funny and interesting story and a great introduction the King Arthur legend.
  - Genre: Myths and legends
  - Lexile: 1120; Points: 13
- Swiss Family Robinson by Johann Wyss (**J WYS**)
  - What’s it all about? A classic tale of shipwreck, survival, wild animal attacks, and pirates!
  - Genre: Adventure
  - Lexile: 1260; Points: 28



## Look for these in the **Young Adult Nonfiction**

- **They Called Themselves The K.K.K.** by Susan Campbell Bartoletti (**YA 322.4 BAR**)
  - What's it all about? Documents the history and origin of the Ku Klux Klan from its beginning in Pulaski, Tennessee, and provides personal accounts, congressional documents, diaries, and more.
  - Genre: Nonfiction (history)
  - Lexile: 1180; Points: 10
- **Dark Game: True Spy Stories** by Paul B. Janeczko (**YA 327.12 JAN**)
  - What's it all about? Intrigue, danger, and secrets from the American Revolution to the Cold War.
  - Genre: Nonfiction (history)
  - Lexile: 1200; Points: 12
- **Geeks: How two lost boys rode the internet out of Idaho** by Jon Katz (**YA 338.761 KAT**)
  - What's it all about? Two small-town teens use their tech skills and the internet to find a new life and community.
  - Genre: Nonfiction (memoir)
  - Lexile: 1070; Points: 14
- **Be a changemaker** by Laurie Ann Thompson (**YA 361.2 THO**)
  - What's it all about? With the help of the author, Laurie Ann Thompson, young people can learn to become the changemakers of the future. A vision, good planning, and the will to succeed are important tools to help youth move society toward the next step it needs to take.
  - Genre: Nonfiction (Critical thinking, inspiration)
  - Lexile: 1130; Points: 14
- **Eyes Wide Open: Going behind the environmental headlines** by Paul Fleischman (**YA 363.7 FLE**)
  - What's it all about? More than just learning about environmental issues, Fleischman teaches readers how to be critical thinkers about the media and news stories and think about the complex issues surrounding environmental concerns.
  - Genre: Nonfiction (Critical thinking, Environment)
  - Lexile: 1080; Points: 8
- **Charles and Emma: The Darwin's leap of faith** by Deborah Heiligman (**YA 576.82 HEI**)
  - What's it all about? The relationship between Darwin, enthusiastic scientist, and his deeply religious wife, Emma.
  - Genre: Biography
  - Lexile: 1020; Points: 17
- **Born Free** by Joy Adamson (**YA 599.757 ADA**)
  - What's it all about? The true story of a woman raising a lioness cub and returning her to the wild, the basis of a popular movie.
  - Genre: Biography
  - Lexile: 1180; Points: 13
- **Steve Jobs: The Man Who Thought Different** by Karen Blumenthal (**YA 921 JOBS**)
  - What's it all about? "From the start, his path was never predictable. Steve Jobs was given up for adoption at birth, dropped out of college after one semester, and at the age of twenty, created Apple in his parents' garage with his friend Steve Wozniack. A devoted husband, father, and Buddhist, he battled cancer for over a decade, became the ultimate CEO, and made the world want every product he touched."--Publisher.
  - Genre: Nonfiction (biography)
  - Lexile: 1110; Points: 14

- **Unraveling Freedom: The Battle For Democracy On The Home Front During World War I by Ann Bausum (YA 940.3 BAU)**
  - What's it all about? Looks at how U.S. presidents from Wilson to George W. Bush have suspended or revoked guaranteed freedoms in the country during times of war, and includes first-person stories and illustrations.
  - Genre: Nonfiction (history)
  - Lexile: 1250; Points: 6
- **D-Day: The invasion of Normandy, 1944 by Rick Atkinson (YA 940.54 ATK)**
  - What's it all about? In this adaptation of The Guns at Last Light, readers will learn about the Allies' famous D-Day invasion of Normandy that changed the course of World War II.
  - Genre: Nonfiction (history)
  - Lexile: 1290; Points: 9
- **Pure Grit: How American World War II Nurses survived battle and prison camp in the Pacific by Mary Farrell (YA 940.5475 FAR)**
  - What's it all about? Fascinating photographs and informational text pay tribute to the World War II nurses who maintained their dignity and discipline in the face of starvation and humiliation in Japanese POW camps.
  - Genre: Nonfiction (History)
  - Lexile: 1000; Points: 11
- **Smart Aleck's Guide To American History by Adam Selzer (YA 973 SEL)**
  - What's it all about? An irreverent, hilarious, and extremely interesting overview of American history with the good bits left in!
  - Genre: Nonfiction (history)
  - Lexile: 1200; Points: 21

## Look for these in the **Young Adult Fiction**

- **Hitchhiker's Guide To The Galaxy** by Douglas Adams (**YA ADA**)
  - What's it all about? Hilarious and crazy journey through space with aliens, philosophy, and just plain weird people.
  - Genre: Science fiction
  - Lexile: 1000; Points: 13
- **Gift of the Unmage** by Alma Alexander (**YA ALE**)
  - What's it all about? As the seventh child of two seventh children, Thea has not fulfilled her parents' hope of having special magical powers, and they try a last, desperate measure before sending her to a school for those with no magic. First in the Worldweaver series.
  - Genre: Fantasy
  - Lexile: 1010; Points: 19
- **Gilda Joyce, Psychic Investigator** by Jennifer Allison (**YA ALL**)
  - What's it all about? During the summer before ninth grade, intrepid Gilda Joyce invites herself to the San Francisco mansion of distant cousin Lester Splinter and his daughter, where she uses her purported psychic abilities and detective skills to solve the mystery of the mansion's boarded-up tower. First in a series.
  - Genre: Mystery
  - Lexile: 1000; Points: 12
- **Astonishing Life of Octavian Nothing, Traitor to the Nation: The Pox Party** by M. T. Anderson (**YA AND**)
  - What's it all about? Raised by a group of rational philosophers known only by numbers, young Octavian begins to question the purpose behind his guardians' fanatical studies. Only after he dares to open a forbidden door does he learn the hideous nature of their experiments — and his own chilling role in them. Set against the disquiet of Revolutionary Boston, M. T. Anderson's extraordinary novel takes place at a time when American Patriots rioted and battled to win liberty while African slaves were entreated to risk their lives for a freedom they would never claim.
  - Genre: Historical fantasy
  - Lexile: 1090; Points: 18
- **Boy in the striped pajamas** (**YA BOY**)
  - What's it all about? A fictional story of the friendship between the son of a Nazi officer and a boy in a concentration camp.
  - Genre: Historical fiction
  - Lexile: 1080; Points: 12
- **I'd tell you I love you, but then I'd have to kill you** by Ally Carter (**YA CAR**)
  - What's it all about? Cammie — and the other girls in her elite boarding school — enjoy being trained as future operatives. But sometimes she wonders if there's something she might be missing, and when she meets a boy she realizes she wants to try "normal" teen life. First in a series.
  - Genre: Adventure, Romance, Funny stories
  - Lexile: 1000; Points: 17
- **Pop Princess** by Rachel Cohn (**YA COH**)
  - What's it all about? Yearning to escape the small Massachusetts town where her family retreated after her sister's death, Wonder Blake gets her chance when her sister's manager offers Wonder a record contract on her sixteenth birthday.
  - Genre: Realistic fiction
  - Lexile: 1070; Points: 17

- **Athletic Shorts: Six short stories by Chris Crutcher (YA CRU)**
  - What's it all about? Short stories about characters from Crutcher's other books. They can be read separately from the previous novels.
  - Genre: Realistic fiction, sports, short stories
- **For the win by Cory Doctorow (YA DOC)**
  - What's it all about? A group of teens and their mysterious online leader try to start a virtual revolution. Doctorow raises questions about teen rights, internet gaming, and virtual living while telling a thrilling adventure story.
  - Genre: Science fiction
  - Lexile: 1070; Points: 34
- **Lexile: 1010; Points: 10 Annie on my Mind by Nancy Garden (YA GAR)**
  - What's it all about? Seventeen-year-old Liza is a perfect student and a perfect daughter, until she falls in love with her best friend, Annie. Despite problems in their school and home lives, Annie and Liza decide stay true to who they are and their feelings for each other.
  - Genre: Romance
  - Lexile: 1000; Points: 15
- **Curious incident of the dog in the night time by Mark Haddon (YA HAD)**
  - What's it all about? Christopher, a 15-year-old autistic boy, is accused of killing his neighbor's poodle. When he sets out to unravel the mystery of how the dog really died, he discovers more mysteries along the way. Some mature language and themes.
  - Genre: Mystery
  - Lexile: 1180; Points: 15
- **How ya like me now by Brendan Halpin (YA HAL)**
  - What's it all about? After his father dies and his mother goes into rehab, Eddie moves from the suburbs into his cousin's Boston loft, where he gradually adjusts to being one of the few white kids in a progressive private school, and learns how to feel like a normal teenager.
  - Genre: Realistic fiction
  - Lexile: 1080; Points: 14
- **Fly by night by Frances Hardinge (YA HAR)**
  - What's it all about? Orphan Mosca Mye and her homicidal goose travel in search of a better life.
  - Genre: Historical fantasy
  - Lexile: 1080; Points: 24
- **The Story of Owen by E. K. Johnston (YA JOH)**
  - What's it all about? When sixteen-year-old classmates Owen and Siobhan meet at the beginning of grade eleven, they become close friends. Owen, who is training in the family business of dragon fighting, needs a bard, and talented musician Siobhan is ready and willing to step into the job.
  - Genre: Fantasy
  - Lexile: 1020; Points: 19
- **Muchacho by Louanne Johnson (YA JOH)**
  - What's it all about? Living in a neighborhood of drug dealers and gangs in New Mexico, high school junior Eddie Corazon, a juvenile delinquent-in-training, falls in love with a girl who inspires him to rethink his life and his choices.
  - Genre: Realistic fiction
  - Lexile: 1250; Points: 14

- **My Most Excellent Year: A Novel Of Love, Mary Poppins & Fenway Park by Steve Kluger (YA KLU)**
  - What's it all about? Three teenagers in Boston narrate their experiences of a year of new friendships, first loves, and coming into their own.
  - Genre: Realistic fiction
  - Lexile: 1030; Points: 17
- **Gossip times three by Amy Goldman Koss (YA KOS)**
  - What's it all about? The relationships between three friends change in seventh grade when they discover that two of them have a crush on the same boy.
  - Genre: Realistic fiction
  - Lexile: 1040; Points: 10
- **Wizard of Earthsea by Ursula K. Le Guin (YA LE)**
  - What's it all about? Ged was the greatest sorcerer in Earthsea, but in his youth he was the reckless Sparrowhawk. In his hunger for power and knowledge, he tampered with long-held secrets and loosed a terrible shadow upon the world. First in a series.
  - Genre: Fantasy
  - Lexile: 1150; Points: 16
- **To be a slave by Julius Lester (YA LES)**
  - What's it all about? A compilation, selected from various sources and arranged chronologically, of the reminiscences of slaves and ex-slaves about their experiences from leaving of Africa through the Civil War and into the early twentieth century.
  - Genre: Nonfiction (history)
  - Lexile: 1080; Points: 8
- **Parrot in the oven by Victor Martinez (YA MAR)**
  - What's it all about? Manny relates his coming of age experiences as a member of a poor Mexican American family in which the alcoholic father only adds to everyone's struggle.
  - Genre: Realistic fiction
  - Lexile: 1000; Points: 10
- **Chalice by Robin McKinley (YA MCK)**
  - What's it all about? Mirasol's life as a beekeeper changes drastically when she is named as a Chalice, an advisor to the Master.
  - Genre: Fantasy
  - Lexile: 1070; Points: 19
- **Princess Ben by Catherine Gilbert Murdock (YA MUR)**
  - What's it all about? A girl is transformed, through instruction in life at court, determination, and magic, from sullen, graceless Ben into Crown Princess Benevolence, a fit ruler of the kingdom of Montagne as it faces war with neighboring Drachensbett.
  - Genre: Fantasy
  - Lexile: 1090; Points: 17
- **Confusion of Princes by Garth Nix (YA NIX)**
  - What's it all about? Khemri was taken from his parents and raised as a Prince with an enhanced physique and powers. He follows his programming with a desire to be Emperor until he meets Raine, who causes him to challenge his programming and feel the unknown sensation of love.
  - Genre: Fantasy
  - Lexile: 1070; Points: 21

- **Sabriel by Garth Nix (YA NIX)**
  - What's it all about? Sabriel, daughter of the necromancer Abhorsen, must journey into the mysterious and magical Old Kingdom to rescue her father from the Land of the Dead. First in a series.
  - Genre: Fantasy
  - Lexile: 1060; Points: 21
- **King Dork by Frank Portman (YA POR)**
  - What's it all about? High school loser Tom Henderson discovers that "The Catcher in the Rye" may hold the clues to the many mysteries in his life.
  - Genre: Realistic fiction
  - Lexile: 1060; Points: 23
- **Fever Crumb by Philip Reeve (YA REE)**
  - What's it all about? Orphan Fever Crumb is raised as an engineer in a futuristic, steampunk London where women are thought to be incapable of rational thought. Fast-paced adventure and thought-provoking commentary fill this unique dystopian fantasy.
  - Genre: Fantasy
  - Lexile: 1000; Points: 19
- **Lizzie Bright and the Buckminster boy by Gary D. Schmidt (YA SCH)**
  - What's it all about? In 1911, Turner Buckminster hates his new home of Phippsburg, Maine, but things improve when he meets Lizzie Bright Griffin, a girl from a poor, nearby island community founded by former slaves that the town fathers--and Turner's--want to change into a tourist spot.
  - Genre: Historical fiction
  - Lexile: 1000; Points: 16
- **Lockdown: Escape from Furnace by Alexander Gordon Smith (YA SMI)**
  - What's it all about? When fourteen-year-old Alex is framed for murder, he becomes an inmate in the Furnace Penitentiary, where brutal inmates and sadistic guards reign, boys who disappear in the middle of the night sometimes return weirdly altered, and escape might just be possible. First in a series.
  - Genre: Horror
  - Lexile: 1010; Points: 19
- **The Geography of You and Me by Jennifer E. Smith (YA SMI)**
  - What's it all about? After meeting in a stalled elevator during a blackout, sixteen-year-old Lucy and seventeen-year-old Owen are separated and begin a long-distance relationship that takes them across the country and across the sea.
  - Genre: Romance/Realistic Fiction
  - Lexile: 1030; Points: 17
- **Mark of the Horse Lord by Rosemary Sutcliff (YA SUT)**
  - What's it all about? Bearing an uncanny resemblance to the now blind displaced King of the Scots, former gladiator and slave Phaedrus impersonates the Horse Lord to regain from the Picts the control of the Scottish kingdom.
  - Genre: Historical fiction
  - Lexile: 1240; Points: 24
- **H.I.V.E.: Higher-Institute-Of-Villainous-Education by Mark Walden (YA WAL)**
  - What's it all about? Swept away to a hidden academy for training budding evil geniuses, Otto, a brilliant orphan, Wing, a sensitive warrior, Laura, a shy computer specialist, and Shelby, an infamous jewel thief, plot to beat the odds and escape the prison known as H.I.V.E. First in a series.
  - Genre: Adventure fiction
  - Lexile: 1040; Points: 17

- **Code Name Verity** by Elizabeth Wein (**YA WEI**)
  - What's it all about? While flying her friend into occupied territory, Maddie is taken captive by the Nazis. Tortured, she tells a story of friendship, loyalty, and espionage and courage. For mature readers.
  - Genre: Historical Fiction
  - Lexile: 1020; Points: 22
- **Thirteenth Child** by Patricia C. Wrede (**YA WRE**)
  - What's it all about? Eff must finally get over believing she is bad luck and accept that her special training in Aphrikan magic, and being the twin of the seventh son of a seventh son, give her extraordinary power to combat magical creatures that threaten settlements on the western frontier.
  - Genre: Fantasy
  - Lexile: 1010; Points: 21

## Look for these in the **Adult Nonfiction**

- **I am Malala: The girl who stood up for education and was shot by the Taliban by Malala Yousafzai (371.822 YOU)**
  - What's it all about? The story of Malala, a teen who fights for girls' education and continues even after being attacked.
  - Genre: Nonfiction (Memoir)
  - Lexile: 1000; Points: 20
- **Chew on this: Everything you don't want to know about fast food by Eric Schlosser (394.12 SCH)**
  - What's it all about? The icky, gross, weird, and strange things you really didn't want to know about fast food.
  - Genre: Nonfiction
  - Lexile: 1110; Points: 15
- **All things bright and beautiful by James Herriot (921 HERRIOT)**
  - What's it all about? Funny, moving, and wacky stories of the life of a country vet in Yorkshire.
  - Genre: Autobiography
  - Lexile: 1070; Points: 32
- **Farewell to Manzanar by Jeanne Wakatsuki Houston (940.547273 HOU)**
  - What's it all about? The true story of the author's experience as a Japanese-American during and after World War II. For mature readers.
  - Genre: Nonfiction (memoir, history)
  - Lexile: 1040; Points: 11



## Look for these in the **Adult Fiction**

- **Pride and Prejudice** by Jane Austen (**FIC AUS**)
  - What's it all about? The classic story of romance and family matters.
  - Genre: Romance, Historical fiction, Classic
  - Lexile: 1100; Points: 28
- **Adventures of Sherlock Holmes** by Arthur Conan Doyle (**FIC DOY**)
  - What's it all about? Classic mysteries about the ultimate reasoning machine, the detective Sherlock Holmes. Full of drama and deduction.
  - Genre: Mystery
  - Lexile: 1080; Points: 25
- **Call of the Wild** by Jack London (**FIC LON**)
  - What's it all about? A classic story of survival and wolves.
  - Genre: Adventure
  - Lexile: 1120; Points: 9
- **Blue Sword** by Robin McKinley (**FIC MCK**)
  - What's it all about? Harry, bored with her sheltered life in the remote orange-growing colony of Daria, discovers magic in herself when she is kidnapped by a native king with mysterious powers.
  - Genre: Fantasy
  - Lexile: 1030; Points: 23
- **Hero and the crown** by Robin McKinley (**FIC MCK**)
  - What's it all about? Aerin, with the guidance of the wizard Luthe and the help of the blue sword, wins the birthright due her as the daughter of the Damarian king and a witchwoman of the mysterious, demon-haunted North.
  - Genre: Fantasy
  - Lexile: 1120; Points: 22
- **Spindle's End** by Robin McKinley (**FIC MCK**)
  - What's it all about? The infant princess Briar Rose is cursed on her name day by Pernicia, an evil fairy, and then whisked away by a young fairy to be raised in a remote part of a magical country, unaware of her real identity and hidden from Pernicia's vengeful powers.
  - Genre: Fairy tale retelling
  - Lexile: 1220; Points: 27
- **Journey to the centre of the earth** by Jules Verne (**FIC VER**)
  - What's it all about? A complete account of the wonderful and thrilling adventures of the intrepid subterranean explorers, Prof. Von Hardwigg, his nephew Harry, and their Icelandic guide, Hans Bjelke.
  - Genre: Science fiction, Historical fantasy
  - Lexile: 1000; Points: 16